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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: ERNST KLAS ET AL - 1 PCT Examiner:
Ser. No.: 10/540,722 GROUP:3765
Filed: June 24, 2005 CONFIRMATION NO.:2412
TITLE: METHOD FOR COMPRESSIVE SHRINKING AND RUBBER
BLANKET SHRINKING SYSTEM

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed please find the International Preliminary Report
on Patentability.

Respectfully submitted,
ERNST KLAS ET AL

By

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States
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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 7, 2006.

Kelly Espitia

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

To:

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Tannenweg 25
41844 Wegberg
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Eingegangen

14. Juni 2006

PA D. v. Creytz

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 08 June 2006 (08.06.2006)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference 53007 WO	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/DE2004/001407	International filing date (day/month/year) 02 July 2004 (02.07.2004)
Applicant A. MONFORTS TEXTILMASCHINEN GMBH & CO. KG et al	

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

None

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Ellen Moyse
Facsimile No.+41 22 740 14 35	Facsimile No.+41 22 338 89 75

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 53007 WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/DE2004/001407	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 02 July 2004 (02.07.2004)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 04 July 2003 (04.07.2003)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant A. MONFORTS TEXTILMASCHINEN GMBH & CO. KG			

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I | Basis of the report |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. +41 22 740 14 35	Date of issuance of this report 29 May 2006 (29.05.2006)
	Authorized officer Ellen Moyse Telephone No. +41 22 338 89 75

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

Translation

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
53007 WO

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/DE2004/001407

International filing date (day/month/year)
02.07.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)
04.07.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Applicant

A. MONFORTS TEXTILMASCHINEN GMBH & CO. KG

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the opinion |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 65.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/DE2004/001407

Box No. I

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/DE2004/001407

Box No. II

Priority

1. ☒ The following document has not yet been furnished:

- ☒ copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43bis.1 and 66.7(a)).
☐ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43bis.1 and 66.7(b)).

Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date in the claimed priority date.

2. ☐ This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43bis.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.

3. Additional observations, if necessary:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/DE2004/001407

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	1-15	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-15	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-15	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations:			
<p>1). The invention relates to a method for the compressive shrinking of a textile material web with the aid of a compressive shrinking system or a rubber blanket shrinking system, (and to a rubber blanket shrinking system), in which a mechanically compressed material web is fixed between an endless rubber blanket and the circumferential surface of a heated main cylinder, and in which that region of the rubber blanket which runs off in each case from the main cylinder is cooled.</p> <p>As a result of the action of heat of the main cylinder, the rubber blanket is heated to such an extent that plasticizers present in the rubber blanket migrate outwards. In order to slow down this effect, the rubber blanket in the conventional shrinking systems is cooled with water over its entire width after discharge from the main cylinder and after the fixed material or material web has been lifted off (cf., for example, DE-C-10 72 220, US-A-2885763, US-A-3940833, etc.).</p> <p>During the discharge at the main cylinder, the (central) regions which are covered by the material web are heated to a lesser extent than those regions of the rubber blanket which are not touched by the material web in each case; here, the conventional cooling in the edge regions</p>			

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/DE2004/001407

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

of the rubber blanket is not always sufficient, with the result that these edge regions can become brittle prematurely on account of the heating.

The invention is based on the problem of finding means for preventing premature embrittlement of the edge regions of the rubber blanket which lie outside the width of the material web.

2). It is solved by the fact that the inactive regions (22) of the rubber blanket (3) are cooled separately and to a greater extent by cooling media after being lifted off from the main cylinder (1) than is permissible for fixing purposes in the active regions (27) of the rubber blanket (3) which are covered by the material web (9).

This proposed solution is advantageous and neither known nor indicated in the prior art. Independent claims 1 and 6 and their dependent claims are therefore novel and inventive, and thus meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(2) and (3).

In the cited prior art (US-A-2885763, US-A-3940833), only cooling media (air or liquid) are provided over the entire width of the material web.